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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	USSR (Latvian SSR)	REPORT NO.		25X1
SUBJECT	Air Activity at Riga/Spilve Airfield	DATE DISTR.	26 October 1953	
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1. During a period of observation at the beginning of September 1953, active night flying with single engine jet planes took place at Riga/Spilve (N 56-59, E 24-04) airfield. The planes took off and landed at short intervals. Twin-engined transport and passenger planes took off and landed at regular intervals during daylight hours. A total of about 60 planes were stationed at the airfield, the majority of which consisted of jet planes. While the jet planes were unpainted and obviously polished, the transport planes were painted a dirty olive-green color. The majority of the planes, when not being used for training, stood in front of a number of low buildings along the southwest side of the airfield.
2. The airfield itself has probably been further enlarged to have a size estimated to be 2 x 2.5 kilometers. the field did not appear to be in satisfactory condition. For example, in rainy weather large pools of water appeared on the runway in the northeastern section of the field. However, this did not prevent the use of the runway, even though large cascades of water rose up during the landings of aircraft.

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